

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:
O Lord our God, we give You thanks for giving us another day. You have kept us in life, sustained us, and allowed us to reach this moment.

Bless the Members of the People's House that You have gifted to serve our Nation. Preserve them this day and for the coming day. Supply their needs according to Your riches and prompt them to work harmoniously with one another. Give them a heart for the needs of all people and help them to reason together for the public good. Should they be tempted by rancor, ease their passion and grant them the respectful desire to see past differences toward accomplishments worthy of Your desire for the benefit of all.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ALTMIRE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ALTMIRE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

STATE OF NEW YORK,
DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Albany, NY, June 20, 2011.

JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House,
The Capitol, Washington DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: As New York State's Secretary of State, I have received

the resignation of Anthony D. Weiner as New York's 9th Congressional District Representative in the United States House of Representatives. The New York State Department of State filed the letter today. A copy of his letter of resignation is attached.

Sincerely,

CESAR A. PERALES,
Secretary of State.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 20, 2011.

Hon. CESAR PERALES,
Secretary of State, New York Department of State, State Street, Albany, NY.

Hon. ANDREW CUOMO,
Governor, Executive Chamber, State Capitol, Albany, NY.

DEAR SECRETARY PERALES AND GOVERNOR CUOMO: I hereby resign as the Member of the House of Representatives for New York's Ninth Congressional District effective at midnight, Tuesday, June 21, 2011. It has been an honor to serve the people of Queens and Brooklyn.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY D. WEINER,
Member of Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER), the whole number of the House is 432.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

BRING HOME TROOPS IN VICTORY

(Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Last night, we heard President Obama's plan for withdrawing our troops from Afghanistan. While I share the President's goal of wanting to bring home our brave troops as soon and as safely as possible, I'm concerned that political considerations were given more weight in this decision than military strategy.

As a military veteran of 27 years, I understand how important it is to base decisions like this on the guidance of our commanders in the field. Our military commanders are the best military strategists in the world, and they are the ones in a position to know how many and what type of troops they need to do their mission.

When the President announced his troop surge, he included the lasting influence of Taliban among his reasons. The Taliban remains allied with al Qaeda, and both terrorist networks would rather see Afghanistan destroyed than lose their influence over the Afghan people.

Mr. Speaker, we've learned that fighting our Nation's wars from the Oval Office does not work. Let's make sure our troops come home in victory.

MEDICARE TURNS 46

(Ms. BASS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BASS of California. In July, Medicare will be 46 years old. This is an opportunity for all of us to take a look at history.

In 1965, 44 percent of Americans over the age of 65 had no health insurance. Many seniors were pushed into poverty by medical costs. In 1965, when Medicare was first passed, out of 200 Republican Members of Congress, less than half voted for it. Future Presidents Bush and Reagan called Medicare socialized medicine. So it should be no surprise that Republicans are still trying to end Medicare. Today, it's called saving Medicare—we should end it in order to save it.

Seventy percent of the public does not support the Republican plan to end Medicare. And so it is a sad fact that a month before the 46th anniversary of Medicare, Republican Members of the House are not celebrating the Nation's commitment to ensure that our seniors have health care but are instead trying to end Medicare before the 46th anniversary.

HERE THEY GO AGAIN: NLRB AND UNIONS ARE KILLING JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the NLRB, under the influence of union bosses, on Tuesday acted again to restrict workers' rights. The NLRB proposed new rules that would speed up elections for unionization. In doing so, unions would force workers into union memberships before fully considering both the advantages and disadvantages of membership. By implementing a shorter voting period, U.S. Chamber Vice President Randy Johnson has revealed this is a cleverly disguised mandate to pressure workers into joining a union without making an informed decision.

Moreover, the NLRB wants to delay litigation over many voter eligibility issues. As Chairman JOHN KLINE stated, "Big Labor has found faithful friends on the Obama NLRB."

The job-killing influence of unions over the NLRB must be stopped before it tramples the rights of American workers, killing jobs at Boeing in South Carolina, and now killing jobs across America.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

RELIGIOUS VIOLENCE IN EGYPT

(Mr. SIRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern for the escalating persecution of the Christian community in Egypt.